

Complete Listing of All Claims and Their Status

Claims 1-2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~The improved fastener gun as recited in claim 1, in~~
~~which said cap feeding apparatus further comprises~~ An improved fastener gun having a
magazine holding a plurality of stacked caps, said magazine including pusher means for
pushing said plurality of stacked caps through said magazine toward a first end of said
magazine, said fastener gun being adapted for sequentially shooting fasteners from a nose
through each of said plurality of caps; said plurality of stacked caps having a leading cap
adjacent said first end of said magazine; said leading cap having a leading portion and a
trailing portion;
wherein the improvement comprises a cap feeding apparatus in combination with said
fastener gun, said cap feeding apparatus comprising:

(a) a cap feeding body with a feeding chamber formed therewithin, said feeding
chamber having a first end in communication with said first end of said
magazine and second end adjacent said nose;

(b) retaining means, in opposition to said pusher means, for opposing emergence of
said leading cap from said magazine;

(c) a shuttle mounted for reciprocation within said chamber; said shuttle having a
forward edge and a rearward edge; said shuttle reciprocating between:

i. a cap-receiving position in which said leading cap may emerge from said
magazine into substantial coplanar relationship with said shuttle forward
of said shuttle's forward edge; and

ii. a cap-ejecting position in which said rearward edge of said shuttle retains
said leading portion of said leading cap within said magazine;
such that said rearward edge of said shuttle becomes interposed between said

24 retaining means and said leading cap as said shuttle moves from said cap-
25 ejecting position to said cap-receiving position; and

26 (d) a flipper arm mounted about an axis for pivoting movement with respect to said
27 cap feeding body such that said flipper arm engages said leading cap as said
28 leading cap emerges from said second end of said feeding chamber.

1 Claim 4 (original): An improved fastener gun having a magazine holding a plurality
2 of stacked caps, said magazine including pusher means for pushing said plurality of stacked
3 caps through said magazine toward a first end of said magazine, said fastener gun being
4 adapted for sequentially shooting fasteners from a nose through each of said plurality of caps;
5 said plurality of stacked caps having a leading cap adjacent said first end of said magazine;
6 said leading cap having a leading portion and a trailing portion;
7 wherein the improvement comprises a cap feeding apparatus in combination with said
8 fastener gun, said cap feeding apparatus comprising:

9 (a) a cap feeding body with a feeding chamber formed therewithin, said feeding
10 chamber having a first end in communication with said first end of said
11 magazine and second end adjacent said nose;

12 (b) a shuttle mounted for reciprocation within said chamber; said shuttle having a
13 forward edge and a rearward edge; said shuttle reciprocating between:

14 i. a cap-receiving position in which said leading cap may emerge from said
15 magazine into substantial coplanar relationship with said shuttle forward
16 of said shuttle's forward edge; and

17 ii. a cap-ejecting position in which said leading cap is pushed by said shuttle
18 forward edge to emerge from said feeding chamber in a feed direction; and

19 (c) a flipper arm mounted about an axis for pivoting movement with respect to said
20 cap feeding body such that said flipper arm engages said leading cap as said
21 leading cap emerges from said second end of said feeding chamber and causes

22 said leading cap to flip about a flipping axis transverse to said feed direction.

1 Claim 5 (original): The improved fastener gun as recited in claim 4, in which leading
2 cap is flipped substantially ninety degrees by said flipper arm.

1 Claim 6 (original): An improved fastener gun having a magazine holding a plurality
2 of stacked caps, said magazine including pusher means for pushing said plurality of stacked
3 caps through said magazine toward a first end of said magazine, said fastener gun being
4 adapted for sequentially shooting fasteners from a nose through each of said plurality of caps;
5 said plurality of stacked caps having a leading cap adjacent said first end of said magazine;
6 said leading cap having a leading portion and a trailing portion;

7 wherein the improvement comprises a cap feeding apparatus in combination with said
8 fastener gun, said cap feeding apparatus comprising:

- 9 (a) a cap feeding body with a feeding chamber formed therewithin, said feeding
10 chamber having a first end in communication with said first end of said
11 magazine and second end adjacent said nose;
12 (b) retaining means, in opposition to said pusher means, for opposing emergence of
13 said leading cap from said magazine;
14 (c) a shuttle mounted for reciprocation within said chamber; said shuttle having a
15 forward edge and a rearward edge; said shuttle reciprocating between:
16 i. a cap-receiving position in which said leading cap may emerge from said
17 magazine into substantial coplanar relationship with said shuttle forward
18 of said shuttle's forward edge; and
19 ii. a cap-ejecting position in which said rearward edge of said shuttle retains
20 said leading portion of said leading cap within said magazine while said
21 leading cap is pushed by said shuttle forward edge to emerge from said
22 feeding chamber in a feed direction;

23 such that said rearward edge of said shuttle becomes interposed between said
24 retaining means and said leading cap as said shuttle moves from said cap-
25 ejecting position to said cap-receiving position; and
26 (d) a flipper arm mounted about an axis for pivoting movement with respect to said
27 cap feeding body such that said flipper arm engages said leading cap as said
28 leading cap emerges from said second end of said feeding chamber and causes
29 said leading cap to flip about a flipping axis transverse to said feed direction.

1 Claim 7 (original): The improved fastener gun as recited in claim 4, in which leading
2 cap is flipped substantially ninety degrees by said flipper arm.